

REMARKS

Claims 2 – 5, 7 – 10 and 12 - 15 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 4, 5, 9, 10, 14 and 15 have been amended. More specifically, the claims have been amended to reflect that in the present invention the depth of the grooves at the rotational position (azimuthal angle) ϕ is optimized to maximize the diffraction efficiency for the wavelength $\lambda = \lambda_0 / \cos \phi$, and not for all wavelengths. The diffraction grating of the present invention does not care about the wavelengths other than the wavelength $\lambda = \lambda_0 / \cos \phi$ diffracted at the rotational position (azimuthal angle) ϕ . That is, equation (13) set forth in page 9 of the present specification and included in each of claims 4, 9 and 14 teaches the depth of the grooves, uses λ_0 merely as a value and varies according to the rotation position (azimuthal angle) ϕ .

It is respectfully submitted that all of the pending claims 2 – 5, 7 – 10 and 12 - 15 are now allowable.

In view of the aforementioned amendments and accompanying remarks, the claims, as amended, are in condition for allowance, which action, at an early date, is requested.

If, for any reason, it is felt that this application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney at the telephone number indicated below to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

In the event that any fees are due in connection with this paper, please charge our Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,

WESTERMAN, HATTORI, DANIELS & ADRIAN, LLP

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'TEB', is written over the printed name of Thomas E. Brown.

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